



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Fukumura, et al.

Serial No.: 09/843,922

Filed: April 30, 2001

For: Negative-Sense RNA Virus Vector For
Nerve Cell

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: Robert M. Kelly

Atty. Docket: 4001-0003CIP

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 27, 2003, requesting an election of claims in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the claims of **Group I (Claims 1-11 and 14-16)**, without traverse.

This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to the non-elected groups. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is believed that a four-month extension of time is required and a petition for such extension is herewith attached. If additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby

petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0622.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH, LLP

By: Mark R Shanks
Mark R. Shanks
Reg. No. 33,781

Date: 3/25/04

1301 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1100 – East Tower
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 414-9200

32256
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE